

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSM-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
IO-13 DHA-02 ORM-02 /071 W
-----035630 081723Z /46

O R 081625Z AUG 77 ZFF-4
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO USDEL TAIF IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1113

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 0825

TAIF FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY FROM AMBASSADOR IN ALEXANDRIA

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PRESS CLAIM THAT FAHMY GAVE AMBASSADOR ADDITIONAL
STIPULATION RE "RIGHT OF PALESTINIANS TO RETURN"

REF: (A) CAIRO 13129, (B) CAIRO 13108

1. NOTE THAT DURING PRESS CONFERENCE IN AMMAN, AUGUST 6,
SECRETARY HAD A QUESTION ABOUT PARAGRAPH RE PALESTINIAN
RIGHT "OF RETURN OR COMPENSATION OR REPATRIATION"
ALLEGEDLY ADDED BY ARAFAT AND SADAT TO EGYPTIAN
"PROPOSAL." SECRETARY REPLIED HE HAD NOT READ EXACT
LANGUAGE OF PARAGRAPH AND DID NOT THEREFORE WISH TO
COMMENT (SECTO 8073).

2. NO SUCH PARAGRAPH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME. HOWEVER,
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REPORT APPEARED IN AHRAH AUGUST 5, FOLLOWING MEETING
BETWEEN FAHMY, ARAFAT AND FIVE PLO EXCOM MEMBERS, THAT
PLO PARTICIPANTS APPROVED EGYPTIAN "PROPOSALS" TO THE
SECRETARY WITH STIPULATION THAT NEW ELEMENT BE ADDED TO
SECOND POINT OF EGYPT'S "PRINCIPLES FOR PEACE." NEW ELEMENT WOULD
STIPULATE THAT IN ADDITION RIGHT OF PALESTINIANS TO ESTABLISH OWN
STATE, THEY SHOULD HAVE "RIGHT TO RETURN" BASED ON 1949

UN RESOLUTION (PARA 1, CAIRO 13036). AHRAM, AUGUST 8, REPORTED THAT FAHMY INFORMED USG, THROUGH ME, OF EGYPTIAN DECISION INCLUDE ARAFAT STIPULATION ON "RIGHT OF PALESTINIANS TO RETURN" IN "EGYPTIAN WORKING PAPER" (PARA 1, CAIRO 13129).

3. ALTHOUGH I HAVE SEEN FAHMY THREE TIMES IN PAST THREE DAYS, HE HAS AT NO TIME CONVEYED ANY SUCH SUGGESTION. HE MAY SIMPLY HAVE FORGOTTEN AND MAY STILL DO SO. EQUALLY LIKELY, HOWEVER, IS THAT OBVIOUSLY INSPIRED EGYPTIAN PRESS PLAY RE ALLEGED SADAT DECISION TO ENDORSE PALESTINIAN "RIGHT OF RETURN" IS MAINLY A PLOY TO PERSUADE DUBIOUS PALESTINIAN AND OTHER ARAB LEADERSHIP OF CONTINUED EGYPTIAN SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN ASPIRATIONS. FAHMY IS WORKING WITH PLO LEADERSHIP ON OTHER MATTERS AND MAY THEREFORE HAVE FOUND IT PRUDENT TO PLAY UP GOE STEADFASTNESS IN CONTINUING TO ENDORSE PALESTINIAN "RIGHT OF RETURN." IT COSTS HIM NOTHING TO DO SO SINCE EGYPT, LIKE USG, HAS REGULARLY SUPPORTED UNGA RESOLUTION 194 STIPULATING REPATRIATION OR COMPENSATION FOR PALESTINIANS.

4. CANNOT, OF COURSE, EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT SADAT AND/OR FAHMY WILL RAISE SUBJECT DURING SECRETARY'S UPCOMING RETURN VISIT.
CHASE

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